

Bureau of Epidemiology Current Utah Microbiology Listserve message Week ending 05/13/05

1. Invasive meningococcal disease - UT

There have been 6 cases of invasive meningococcal disease in Utah this year, which is higher than expected. Four have been in Salt Lake County residents, 2 were serogroup Y and 2 serogroup C. Two have been Davis County residents, both were serogroup Y and both were residents at the Clearfield Job Corps. Several of the cases of invasive meningococcal disease were unusual in that their presentation was severe pneumonia.

Clusters of illness due to Neisseria meningitidis serogroup Y are unusual. Davis County, in consultation with the Utah Department of Health, Job Corps, and CDC, decided to invite a CDC staff member to assist with the investigation at Job Corps. No epidemiologic link was found between the two cases at Job Corps, nevertheless, all Job Corps residents and staff have been offered antimicrobial prophylaxis as well as the new conjugate meningococcal vaccine.

Invasive meningococcal disease is an immediately reportable illness in Utah. All clinicians with cases that are suspected to be caused by meningococci should report them by telephone immediately to their local health department. Close contacts should receive rapid antimicrobial prophylaxis.

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To report a disease or outbreak call 1-888-EPI-UTAH 24/7